

COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION REPORT 25X1

TOPIC Templin Troop Training Grounds 25X1

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1 25X1

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 23 June 1953

REFERENCES \_\_\_\_\_

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 1 - sketch on ditto

REMARKS \_\_\_\_\_

25X1

1. Motor vehicles observed entering and leaving the hutment in the restricted area 25X1  
 500 meters southwest of Hammelspring on 20 May 1953 included jeep 25X1  
 occupied by a colonel and a senior lieutenant who wore red-bordered black  
 epaulets with artillery insignia; trucks 25X1 each occupied  
 by 12 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and trucks 25X1

2. On 12 May 1953, about 40 soldiers practiced aiming on four 57-mm AT guns in the  
 area southwest of Hammelspring, while about 40 men performed aiming practices  
 on eight 37-mm AA guns and 20 men received infantry training. On 13 May, about  
 80 soldiers practiced aiming on 4 x 122-mm field howitzers and 8 x 37-mm AA guns  
 in the same area while several groups each consisting of about 10 soldiers prac-  
 ticed advancing on both sides of the Hammelspring-Vogelsang road. On 15 May,  
 about 100 soldiers received training on 4 x 122-mm field howitzers, 8 x 37-mm  
 AA guns and 3 x 122-mm mortars in the same area. 25X1

At 9 a.m. on 7 May, a train consisting of 9 boxcars, 3 gondola cars and 1 flat-  
 car carrying 6 AA guns and 9 trucks were seen entering the Templin railroad  
 station and proceeding toward Loewenberg at 1:30 p.m. <sup>2</sup>

3. Units and material detained in Templin included an artillery unit equipped with  
 122-mm field guns, an undetermined number of AT guns and an undetermined num-  
 ber of AAA units equipped with motor vehicles 25X1 on 21  
 April 1953, and 12 guns and an undetermined number of trucks and personnel  
 unloaded from three trains on 22 April. Other troops which could not be covered  
 were unloaded from 23 to 27 April. No unloading was observed after 27 April.  
 On 2 May, Camp Kannenburg was occupied to capacity. Tanks and other vehicles  
 were continuously observed driving north from the direction of Kannenburg since  
 3 May. Tanks and vehicles going north at about 10 a.m. on 4 May included  
 6 T 34/85 tanks, 4 armored scout cars, 25X1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/((

634

SECRET/

-2-

25X1

25X1

4. On 15 May 1953, the barracks installation northwest of Vogelsang were unoccupied. Work which had been suspended when a unit from Oranienburg transferred to the installation for a temporary stay was completed. A sentry wearing red-bordered black epaulets was seen on patrol at the installation.
5. From 13 to 15 May, source determined that the barracks buildings under construction northwest of Vogelsang included a headquarters building which was completed up to the first floor, 3 buildings which were completed up to the second floor and 2 other buildings which were completed up to the first floor. The construction of a road connecting the road toward Burgwall with the barracks installations had started with trees cut and the road bed prepared. Packing and broken stones were supplied in spots and about 80 carloads of stones arrived daily at Vogelsang. the situation in Vogelsang was marked by a severe shortage of material and growing discontent of the workers. the Bau Unions owed the railroads 100,000 eastmarks in rent and observed that even skilled brick layers who were in particular short supply were employed at the Vogelsang railroad station to help unloading stones. Stone heaps were piled up along the tracks toward Hammelspring and nobody knew how to ship them away. No ceilings could be built for lack of iron girders. Food supply was poor and no bonuses were paid for the new increased quotas which had to be fulfilled. Some of the drivers had still not yet received their pay for 2 months. Special payment of 0.50 eastmarks per day paid as dust bonus was cancelled. Workers would daily give notice to quit. Three groups of brick layers came from Gross Doelln where work had been completed and, 2 days later, one half of them went over the road construction to get more payment.
6. in conjunction with the construction of the barracks installation 2 km northwest of Vogelsang, a wooded area 4 x 4 km was surrounded by a barbed wire fence in the Zehdenick Forest. An area 1 x 1 km was cleared and prepared for construction work inside the fenced in area in the forest. the construction site was located in forest sections Nos 225, 226, 227, 239, 240, 241 and 242. The barracks installations were built on orders of the Soviet Occupation Power. The Bau Union Potsdam, special construction staff Unterabteilung Herzberg of the Ministry for Construction and the Kreisbaubetrieb Templin were responsible for the construction work, which had the designation of Baustelle V. Four hundred workers were employed on the site by Bau Union Potsdam (BUP). Two of the buildings were built by Kreisbaubetrieb Templin as the BUP was unable to furnish the labor required. Material daily arrived at a rate of 30 to 40 cars. The arrival of 1,200 carloads of material was advertised. 5 buildings and 2 low wooden buildings by the site of the garage, about 40 meters long, were occupied by a Soviet motor transport unit which consisted of about 120 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Ten buildings, each 60 meters long, were about 90 percent completed. Six additional buildings of this size were scheduled to be built. each building could quarter about 180 soldiers. The construction of the boiler house which was to receive two large boilers was completed. The bakery was completed about 90 percent. Five low wooden buildings served as quarters for construction workers. Two wooden buildings were occupied by the special construction staff Unterabteilung Herzberg. All barracks buildings were 2-storied except for two buildings which were 1-story buildings and were officers quarters. About 2 km of road were under construction at the installation. They had a packing of undetermined strength. Colonel Litvinoff (fnu) served as construction manager. Also employed were one German construction manager of the BUP, one commercial manager

SECRET

SECRET,

-3-

25X1

and one construction manager of special construction staff Unterabteilung Herzberg.

25X1 [redacted] upon completion the barracks in-  
 25X1 stallation would be occupied by either a tank unit or an artillery unit. 3 [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted] numerous ditches about 4 meters deep and between 15 to 20 meters long were  
 25X1 constructed on lanes and clearances in Zehdenick Forest [redacted] they  
 25X1 were built for tank practices. [redacted] there were many imprints of 25X1  
 25X1 heavy tanks and, therefore [redacted] numerous tanks were parked there. 1  
 25X1 [redacted]

25X1

1.

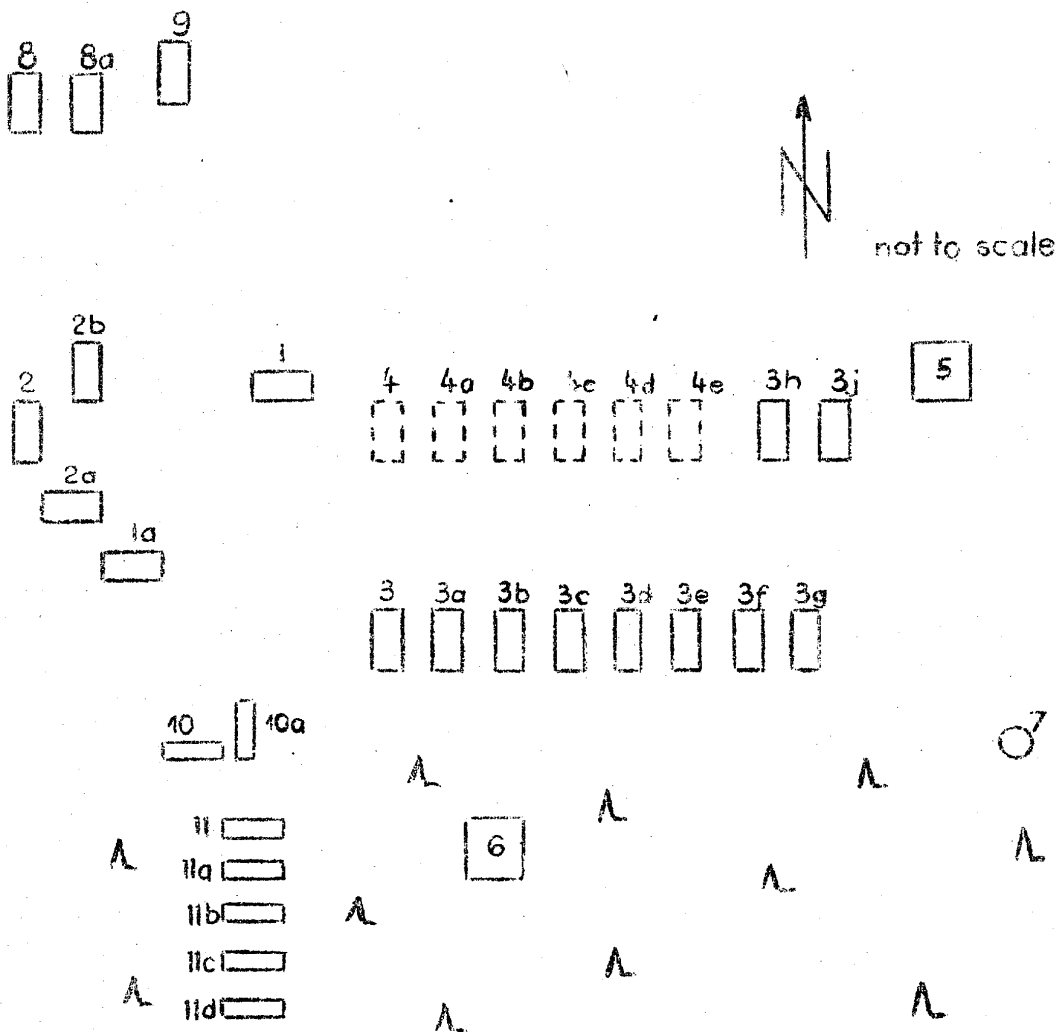
25X1 2. [redacted] Comment. The transport possibly carried units of the 63d AAA Div (US) which  
 transferred from Eberswalde to Wustrow.

25X1 3. [redacted] Comment. Previous information indicated that the barracks installations  
 northwest of Vogelsang were located in forest sections Nos 254 and 255. It is  
 25X1 probable that additional buildings are under construction further south and thus  
 in the forest section [redacted] especially as the installations of  
 Camp Vogelsang which is occupied by the 25th Tank Div are located north of these  
 forest sections. It is also probable that the units of the division left their  
 barracks installations for their summer quarters in order not to interfere with  
 the construction work. The capacity of the installations both completed and planned  
 is about 3,200 persons. The units of the division previously stationed at Oranien-  
 burg would, however, require about double this billeting space. For location of  
 the buildings, see sketch. The motor transport unit probably belongs to the GORP  
 and has been employed on the construction of the barracks installations since  
 mid-February. [redacted] 25X1  
 25X1 [redacted]

SECRET,

SECRET,

25X1

Barracks Installations Northwest of VegelsangLegend.

- 1 - 1a Officers billets, one-storied
- 2 - 2b Barracks buildings (occupied by motor transport unit)
- 3 - 3j One-story barracks buildings
- 4 - 4e Planned one-story barracks buildings
- 5 Bakery
- 6 Boiler house
- 7 Lifting installation
- 8 - 8b Barracks buildings for motor transport unit
- 9 Garage
- 10 - 10a Low wooden buildings (quartering Unterabteilung Norberg special construction staff)
- 11 - 11d Low wooden buildings for construction workers.

SECRET